

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAMA 01117 231634Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 /060 W
-----232248Z 007943 /73

R 231304Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4673
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS SYRIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 1117

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, XF, BA
SUBJECT: REPORT OF SARG CONCERN ABOUT INTERNAL DISSIDENCE

REF: MANAMA 1064

1. FOR WHAT IT MAY BE WORTH, DURING MAY 23 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HE VOLUNTEERED TO ME THAT, IN ADDITION TO SYRIAN VIEWS REPORTED REFTEL, SARG FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM HAD EXPRESSED TO HIM SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT RISING INTERNAL DISSENT IN SYRIA. FONMIN SAID THAT KHADDAM TOLD HIM IN PRIVATE THAT PRESIDENT ASSAD FEELS THAT SYRIA IS UNDER GROWING INTERNAL PRESSURE BOTH TO SOLVE ITS DISPUTE WITH ISRAEL AND TO GET ON WITH DEVELOPMENT. KHADDAM SAID SUCH PRESSURES MAY BE MORE OBVIOUS IN EGYPT BUT THEY ARE JUST AS REAL IN SYRIA.

2. FONMIN SAID KHADDAM SAID INTERNAL DISSENT NOT DIRECTLY AIMED AT LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE BUT TAKES FORM OF VERBAL "SNIPING" AT SYRIA'S WEAK POINTS, SUCH AS FAILURE THUS FAR OF MORE OPEN ECONOMY TO DO MUCH FOR THE POOR, WITH INCREASINGLY EXPLICIT AND OVERT IMPLICATION THAT SINCE ASSAD'S POLICIES FAILING IN THIS SPHERE, HE MAY BE HEADED TOWARD FAILURE IN OTHERS AS WELL.

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2. COMMENT: DEPT AND EMBASSY DAMASCUS ARE OF COURSE IN POSITION TO JUDGE THE VALUE OF THIS REPORT. WHAT IS NOTE-WORTHY IN LOCAL CONTEXT IS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER'S USUALLY FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE CLEARLY HAS BEEN EXPANDED BY KIND OF BRIEFINGS WE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING OF LATE, SUCH AS ON HABIB VISIT TO BAGHDAD AND US-SYRIAN "SUMMIT" IN GENEVA. I HOPE EQUALLY

TIMELY AND SUBSTANTIVE BRIEFING ON PRINCE FAHD'S MEETINGS IN
WASHINGTON WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR USE HERE.
CLUVERIUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DISSIDENT FACTIONS, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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